

RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S ARGUMENTS

1. Applicant's arguments regarding Claims 1-8, 11-21, and 24-28 have been considered and are found persuasive.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention as claimed, specifically in combination with said optical splitter dividing fluorescence radiation from said object in proportions such that those optical channels corresponding to intensifying channels that are gated to intensify later in said time gating sequence receive more of said fluorescence radiation, is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEPHEN YAM whose telephone number is (571)272-2449. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on (571)272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stephen Yam/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2878